

the pastor can have no more valuable assistant than you. Pastors everywhere are more and more appreciating your worth to them as well as their worth to you; and in the well organized churches of to-day you are given a place on the official board of the church. So more and more your worth is being appreciated. This too should inspire you to serve to the utmost of your ability with all the aids you may summon, the trust committed to you.

You should also appreciate that opportunity, to a Christian, as a claim. Doors of opportunity are opened by God, and God has a claim upon him to whom such a door has been opened. If, therefore, the office to which you have been called is an opportunity, and who can look upon it otherwise, then God has a claim upon you. But further, opportunity means also obligation, but to the Christian obligation means inspiration. You have not been called to your office simply that you may enjoy certain dignities that may inhere in the office, or that you may lord it over others. You are given an opportunity to do a great work. God has therefore a claim upon you. Are you trying to satisfy that claim? Will it be said of you at the expiration of your term of office, "Well done," "Thou hast been a good and faithful servant?" But God's claims are not burdensome, but inspiring. And this last is a significant word to the Christian. It means inspiration, that is, the spirit of Christ is in me and because he lives and loves, I can also live and love. Power to serve belongs to Him and he manifests it according to his own will. On him then you must wait; for from Him cometh not only our salvation but our sufficiency. What a blessed, inspiring thought that we can have this power,—to know that God's power is available to all engaged in his service. Do not despair, therefore, but take heart. If God has called you and you keep right with him you can have the sufficiency that alone comes from God. How beautifully yet, how truthfully the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor expresses this thought. He says: "We are a supernatural people, born again by a supernatural birth, kept by a supernatural power, sustained on supernatural food, taught by a supernatural teacher, from a supernatural book. We are led by a supernatural captain in right paths to assured victories."

Here, then, is ground for encouragement and inspiration. Our command is to go forward, and our captain who has said that all power is his and that he will evermore be with us leads the way. Take heart presidents and begin the work committed to you with a fixed purpose that in Christ's name you will faithfully and earnestly do the work that pertains to your office.

I have written these words both to arouse you and to encourage you, and I close with a prayer to the Infinite Father that He will bless them to the purposes where-unto they are sent.

I hope next week to have a few words with the Prayer-meeting committee.

THE PAINTING FUND

This fund is growing, tho not so rapidly as we expected, nor so rapidly as we hope it will grow. Will you not make your subscriptions at once, report them to me and pay during the year. The painters are proceeding with the work and the College building has already received the first coat. And what an improvement. We have grounds and buildings here that the church should feel proud of. We have ample class rooms for 600 pupils. The boarding hall too is commodious and well planned. We should, therefore, take sufficient interest in the grounds and buildings to preserve and beautify them. I hope to be able to report a number of subscriptions next week.

PRIVATE SUBSCRIPTION

I have received a few private subscriptions usually accompanied with the cash. If there are others that feel an interest in our project we will gladly accept your offering or subscription. There may be churches in which there is no society; you too can and should give us some aid. Whatever you will do, do now.

WM. D. FURRY,

Ashland, Ohio.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The request of the President, Professor W. D. Furry to have all moneys of the many societies sent to the national treasurer, Sister Etta Lichty, Waterloo, Iowa, with a statement where to be used, is a matter of much importance. It will be a source of satisfaction and strength to have the several officials of the society recognized in their official capacity, and it will also be the means of getting satisfactory reports of the work, which is not possible under the haphazard system of the past, if indeed it can be called system.

This applies to all institutions. What is the use of having boards, or organizations with duly elected officers if the officers are to be ignored in their official capacity? We can never reduce our work to economical and satisfactory management until the brethren and friends will recognize proper business principles.

If Young People's societies have money to give toward any general work remit to the National Treasurer either thru the secretary or direct.

If S. S. C. E. societies have money to give to any general work remit to your treasurer with directions.

If you have money to give for general missions remit to the treasurer either thru the secretary or direct.

If you have money for foreign missions remit to the treasurer of the Foreign Missionary Society thru the secretary or direct.

I would suggest here that our Editor set up the names of all the officials of the several auxiliary societies and keep them in every issue of the EVANGELIST during the year, so that parties wishing to make remittances can pick up any EVANGELIST and get the address of every official.

I have been trying to effect proper system ever since I have been connected with the church. I have thus far not accomplished much in that direction. I trust the Editor and others will help to agitate this matter until the desired effect is accomplished.

JACOB C. CASSEL.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE CHURCH

ADA CARDWELL

"For Christ and the church we stand." When that is our motto we are ready to take up our cross and to make Christ first and everything else second. When we come to Christ's cross for salvation we find there our own cross of service.

We begin to follow Christ by taking up our cross. Whatever burdens and opportunities he offers us we are bound to take up and bear gladly. There should be no shrinking in the Lord's services. Whatever he presents to us we are not to shrink from. No duty can be avoided if we have peace in our hearts and favor in his eyes. Willingly and cheerfully we are to take up our cross and follow Jesus. No cross no crown.

The law of the kingdom is growth. When we follow Christ we rise to loftier ideals, loftier character, loftier ability, loftier life altogether. His service expands the capacities. Whatever we touch should be uplifted. Our friends, our church, our community, our homes all should rise higher because of our lifting touch. By loving whatever is lovable in those around us, love will flow back from them to us and life will become a pleasure instead of a pain and earth will become like heaven; and we shall become not unworthy followers of him whose name is love. The moment we begin to help somebody God lightens our labor by causing our hearts to help our hands. To live well in the quiet routine of life, to fill a little space because God wills it, to go on cheerfully with the patty rounds of little duties, to smile for the joy of others when the heart is aching—who does thus his works will follow him. He may not be a hero in the world but he is one of God's heroes.

We may not be able to forecast the future nor understand the mysteries of Providence, but always there is some plain duty to be done, some unquestioned truth to which we can cling, some real good towards which we may press. The pebbles of happiness are the little things of life well done. It is a great hour for us young people when we awake to the consciousness that we are children of God. We live when we feel all honest work is His business to be done faithfully as in His sight, and with His blessing. This lifts us above the level of the commonplace and fills all lonely places with a sense of companionship as workers in the church, whether in the Sunday school or in the Christian Endeavor we should do whatever our hands find to do. It was a little thing—Christ's quiet command, "Follow me," but who ever heard it upon his answer depended his own fate and much besides. It is a little